

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 05444 150448Z
ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 /020 W
-----040828 160534Z /13

R 141638Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2540

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 5444

DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: THPY, OSCI, TBIO, SF
SUBJECT: SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES WITH SOUTH AFRICA

1. AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE HAS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM ARTHUR G. MATCHES, RESEARCH AGRONOMIST, USDA SCIENCE AND EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION, CROP PRODUCTION RESEARCH UNIT, 207 WATERS HALL, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, COLUMBIA, MO. 65211, ADVISING HIM OF MATCHES' VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA OCTOBER 18 TO NOVEMBER 25, 1978.

2. MATCHES STATES HE WILL BE WORKING FOR SA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL SERVICES INSTITUTE OF CROPS AND PASTURES AND "WILL BE VISITING EXPERIMENT STATIONS, CONFERRING WITH SCIENTISTS, AND ADVISING THEM OF PLANT AND ANIMAL RESEARCH TECHNIQUES, PARTICULARLY IN PASTURE/LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS" HE INDICATES HE WILL SUBMIT A REPORT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO SA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TECHNICAL SERVICES.

3. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSULT WITH AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT TO DETERMINE WHETHER VISIT PROPOSED BY MATCHES IS CONSISTENT WITH CURRENT POLICIES ON US/SA SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION. EMBASSY VIEWS ON THESE POLICIES WERE CONTAINED IN PRETORIA 3781.

4. ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE DIFFICULTIES, WOULD ALSO SEEM
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ADVISABLE TO TRY TO DEVISE A SYSTEM WHEREBY PROJECTS OF THIS KIND ARE SUBMITTED FOR SCRUTINY BEFORE FINAL ARRANGEMENTS MADE WITH SA HOSTS. CANCELLATION AT THIS STAGE WOULD CLEARLY BE HARMFUL TO IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE AND SECRETARY OF DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL SERVICES.

5. IN ANOTHER INSTANCE, WE HAVE BEEN ASKED BY EUROPEAN RESEARCH
OFFICE OF U.S. ARMY IN LONDON WHETHER USG POLICY WOULD PERMIT
THAT OFFICE TO SUPPORT RESEARCH BY PROFESSOR KRZENSINSKI OF
STELLENBOSCH ON IMPROVED COMPUTER PERFORMANCE. WE HAVE SUG-
GESTED THAT PROPOSAL BE COORDINATED WITH STATE BEFORE
UNDERTAKING FURTHER CONTACT WITH KRZENSINSKI.
EDMONDSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, RESEARCH, SCIENTIFIC VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PRETOR05444
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780377-0601
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780966/aaaaccng.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 320e2250-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1432616
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES WITH SOUTH AFRICA
TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TBIO, SF, US, (MATCHES, ARTHUR G)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/320e2250-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014